

Outdoor Committee Meeting December 14, 2015

Present: Dave Hamilton (Co-Overall), Sean Maharg (Co-Overall), Josie Hamilton, Krista Hamilton, Kimberly Lowry, Isabelle Lowry, David Lowry, Shalee Tamcke, Shane Tamcke (Beef), Tara Parry, John Parry, McKenzie Parry, Teresa Kelly Brewer, Taton Brewer, Keegan Brewer, Vanessa Olson (Rabbit), Janell Van Diest, Damon Van Diest, Janelle Swanson, Kathy Swanson, Dave Swanson (Swine), Jeff Patten (Sheep), Kelvin Gebhardt, McKay Gebhardt, Roberta Gebhardt, Kathy Edwards, Sarah Diehl, Hannah Diehl, Dawn Schneider (Horse), Mary Meyer (Extension), Katie Merchen, Sandy Merchen, Wade Bratlien, Karen Bratlien (Dog), Olivia Harris, Denice Harris, Tanner Harris, C.J. (Charles) Geier, B.J. Geier, Ken McNeil, Andrea Corbally, Colton Perry, Juanita Kelley, Russ Kelley, Randi O'Shea, Chand O'Shea, Garrett Skegen, Beghan Skegen, Jade Kelley, Coleton Kelley, Crystal Kelley

The meeting was called to order by Sean Maharg.

The November 16, 2015 meeting minutes were presented. The following amendments will be made:

- Beef reported correction of ...tagging will be January 6th, 2016.
- Horse report: correction of ...approve new club class list,
- Proposed Recommended Changes
 - 851 Market Lambs - 2. Change to read; Lambs must be less than 1 year of age.
 - 872 Market Swine – Change to read; Swine must be less than 1 year of age.
- It was asked that all discussions points be included in the minutes.

Shane Tamcke made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as amended. Kathy Swanson seconded.

Sean Maharg and Dave Hamilton asked the 4-H members present to stand and be acknowledged stating their voices needed to be heard on the various topics of discussion. The adults present were asked to honor the members' voices.

Superintendent Reports

Beef – Shane Tamcke reported forms are due on January 6. They can be turned in at January 10ths tagging; however, a \$5 late fee will be assessed. Also, this year the Brand Inspector will return the brand inspection to the 4-H member for safe keeping and presentation at the sale. The 4-H program cannot hold the title to the animal for a member. The brand inspection is considered a title to the animal in the state of Montana.

Dairy – Nothing to report

Dog – Karen Bratlien reported the project is on break until early January. This year we have approximately 45 dogs and handlers in the project.

Goat – Josie Hamilton reported the project has hosted two workshops that were well attended.

Herdsmanship – Nothing to report

Horse – Dawn Schneider reported the Helmet video will January 6. The first ride was well attended. The next workshop will be December 21, 2015.

Livestock Judging – Mary Meyer reported the group will be attending the Maggie. Please see the newsletter for more information.

Poultry – Don't know who reported ... No workshop this month. The meeting date has moved to the third Sunday of month to better accommodate project members' schedules.

Quality Assurance – Janelle Swanson reported there will be a planning meeting on December 15th at 5:30 PM in the Board Room. January 3, 2016 will be the first Quality Assurance meeting at 1:30 PM and the second one will be April 22nd.

Rabbit – Vanessa Olson reported the project has 24 members at the last meeting. The next meeting will be December 28, 2015 at 5:30 PM.

Round Robin – Nothing to report

Sale – Dave reported this will be covered under New Business.

Sheep – Jeff Patton reported the next meeting will be January 31.

Swine – Dave Swanson report he is working on project materials with weight charts for January workshop.

Extension – Mary Meyer spoke to the meeting ground rules and program mission of the Outdoor Committee. She also asked that communications go through the superintendents and then to Overall Co-Chairs for project questions and concerns. Sean Maharg asked that folks get their agenda items to either he or Dave at least a week or preferably two week in advance of the meeting. He also asked that the individual prepare a one sheet point paper with highlights of the topic to hand out.

Old Business

- 1.) Ultra-sounding – Jeff Patton reported Mary visited with other extension agents as to their carcass contest. 50% of the counties had some sort of contest, the other 50% did not. Some do just ultrasound and some do both. The ultrasound process was started to educate the kids on their carcass without having to actually see the carcass hanging. The technician does a good job educating the kids at the time of the ultrasound. Last year, the service cost \$265 for 38 lambs to be ultra sounded. The kids spoke to liking the process for a better understanding of the body composition of their lamb. The consensus was the process will continue. The next topic was a discussion of all animals being able to be ultra sounded. Jeff will ask the tech if she does other animals. Karyn Hamilton noted she would be interested in the service for the goat project. A concern was the budgeting constraints. Dawn Schneider suggested having the kids pay \$10 per evaluation. It was noted the service would be optional.
- 2.) Tagging Multiple Animals – Dave Hamilton gave the history of the topic. Dave and Sean suggested putting together a very small task group to address the topic, the pros / cons and a recommendation for the committee. Committee would be comprised of adults and kids and would be tasked with making a recommendation to the Outdoor Committee. Any change will

be for the 2017 Fair. It was asked if a questionnaire to the clubs for their feedback to be given to the committee. Teresa Kelley Brewer reported she performed a survey of this topic 7 years ago and polled every person at every project tagging. At that time, 70% were against it. A suggestion of a preliminary survey of interest before a committee is formed. If a survey is used, it was asked that questions be laid out in advance.

- 3.) Mandatory Workshop – Dave Hamilton reported requiring project members attend mandatory project workshop(s) was presented earlier this year. Recently there has been better attendance in the project workshops. Dave encouraged the youth to attend their project workshops. He suggested to continue to monitor workshop attendance and revisit if needed as well as have the Superintendents think of ways in which workshops could be better attended. His thought is run with it and have superintendents think about better attendance. Mary Meyer suggested to consider interview judging at the fair for the kids instead of mandatory workshop.

New Business

- 1.) Sales Committee – Sean Maharg provided an update of the committee and the suggestion of having those superintendents with market projects being a part of the committee. Sean would like to see parts of the function parted out so that not one person is not responsible for all of it. A small committee needs to be formed to get this project started. Those interested in being on the committee were encouraged to attend the committee meeting on January 4 at 5:30 PM in the BHB. Dave Hamilton will invite the Gardner's to the meeting.
- 2.) Animal Project Fees – Sean Maharg gave an overview of the history of the topic and the various project fees such as shooting sports, dogs, etc. Sean noted one item that was brought to the attention was a project fee per species with a family cap. Discussion points were:
 - a. How would we move forward with this?
 - b. This topic is coming forth because the livestock fair fee is just enough to cover tags and shipping of the animals. It was noted that market kids are paying the fees not others in the project that do not do market animals.
 - c. There is no monetary coverage of several projects that need equipment, etc.
 - d. Concern of being charged more money on top of having to purchase the animals. There are a lot of consumables to the other project that are not livestock. Livestock has bigger costs to get the animal. Adding an additional fee would add issues for the kids and families financial.
 - e. Horse has a big fee that helps with their arena fees and other items. It was been a self-sufficient project for many years and this past year have to had to ask for money from Council. The kids are getting a lot of education within these projects.
 - f. The initial expensive for dogs and horses are pretty much involved whether or not you are taking the animal to fair and they are pets. Most animals taken to fair are animals that are used for other means. Concern of the kids not having enough money for the projects.
 - g. Suggestion of increasing the percentage charged to market sale animals to help with costs.
 - h. Fair entry fee was questioned and perhaps boosted to make up the difference.
 - i. Question of how much money we need to cover these costs?
 - j. Is there another option than raising fees?
 - k. Recommended doing a business analysis of the program and some data to help with the issue.

Shane Tamcke made a motion to increase the percentage to the market kids on the sale of their animal by 1% temporarily for the 2016 fair year. Karyn Hamilton seconded. The

recommendation will go to Council then to the clubs in January for voting at the February Council meeting. 20 yeas, 15 nays.

- 3.) Live Animals during Educational Judging – Dave Hamilton reported on the proposal there not be any live animals during educational judging. If members are participating in educational judging, they cannot bring a live animal as part of their display. The member needs to use photos, scrapbook, etc. as part of their judging. The recommendation was made so that people know not to bring their animals. Discussion points were:

- a. It was noted in the past, kids have done the animal as part of their display.
- b. Part of the concern was the superintendents having to be here for educational display and having enough time to bring their animals.
- c. The pocket pets' project are to bring their animals to the education display.
- d. It was also a concern for time during their educational display and making the day go smoothly.
- e. It was recommended the educational display judging be done right after the species show. Education could be done in the arena.
- f. It was asked if time could be set aside time to do livestock educational display outside of the educational display.
- g. It was thought the animals would distract from the posters others worked hard on.

Dawn Schneider made a motion to have a separate time for the live animal educational displays to be judged in a different area and time. Karyn Hamilton seconded. It was asked if the superintendent would need arrange for judging. 30 yeas, 1 nay.

- 4.) Add Council President to Decision for Sending Home Animals – Dave Hamilton reported on the proposal to add the Council President into the decision making process when sending an animal home.

- a. Proposed: 4H Livestock Instructions – 10, add... Overall Outdoor Superintendent, Beef Superintendent, County Extension Agent, and Council President will jointly rule if an animal is unmanageable.
- b. Currently the decision making is left to the Project Superintendent, Extension Agent and Overall Outdoor Chair and a vet as needed.
- c. Concern of future President not knowing agriculture or livestock.
- d. The intent of the proposal was to have another opinion involved. It was thought it would be a more objective perspective for the process.
- e. It was noted the Extension Agent has the final say in whether or not an animals will be sent home.

Shane Tamcke made a motion to leave the policy as it is: Superintendent, Overall Superintendent and Extension Agent. Vanessa Olson seconded. 21 yeas, 7 nays.

- 5.) Show vs. Market – Jeff Patton made a motion to table the show versus market agenda item and sent it to a committee. Russ Kelley seconded. 34 yeas, 2 nays. Dave noted the committee will be form shortly.

- a. The proposal was read: 872 Market Swine – I propose creation of a separated system of classes for market and show animals, to be determined by changes to the lots in Beef, Swine and Sheep. Market and Show animals will not be shown together. Show animals will be eligible to sell in the livestock sale, but grand and reserve for the sale is for market only. It is a Market project.
- b. This will not be effective at the 2016 fair.
- c. Dave asked those interested in participating on the committee to please see him and Sean at the end of the meeting.

6.) Sheep – Hair Breed Discussion – Jeff Patton reported the date cannot be changed at this time.
Discussion points were:

- a. What can be done to make it right and that was to reduce the weight by 10 lbs.
- b. We can make the change for the following fair year.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 PM.